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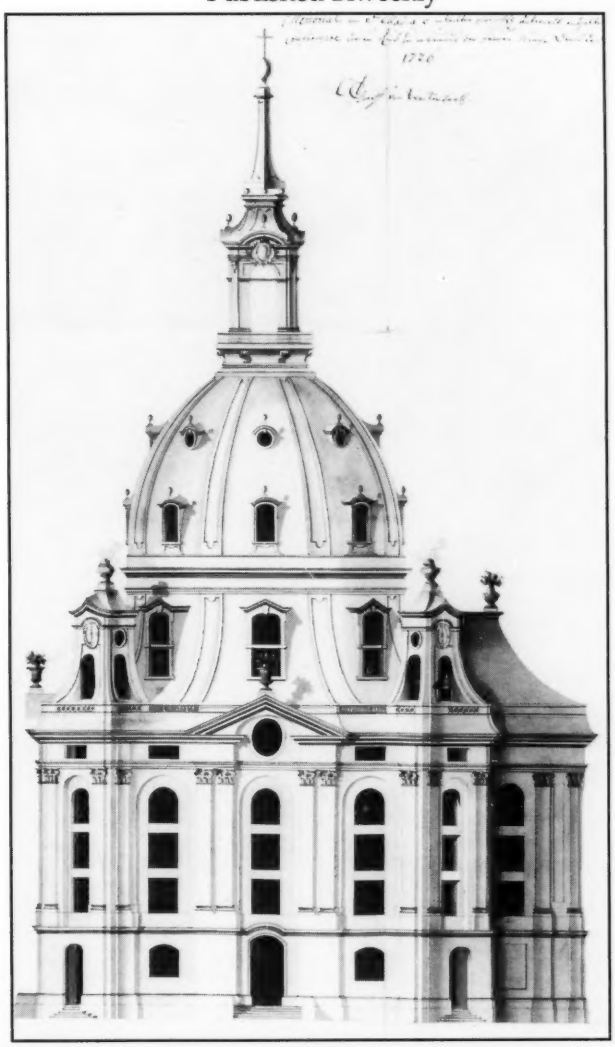

Dresden: Treasures from the Saxon State Library, Part II

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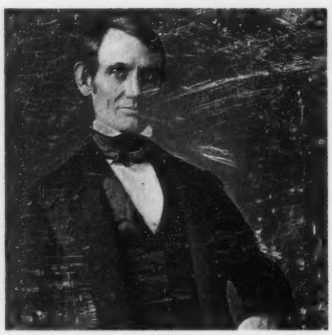
JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress



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On the Cover: Known as the Stone Bell, the dome of the Frauenkirche rose above Dresden's inner city for more than two centuries until it was destroyed by bombings at the end of World War II.

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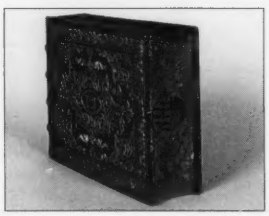

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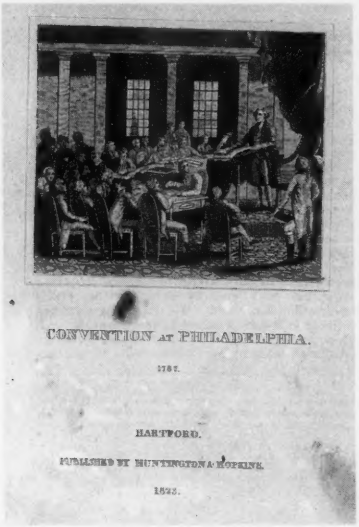
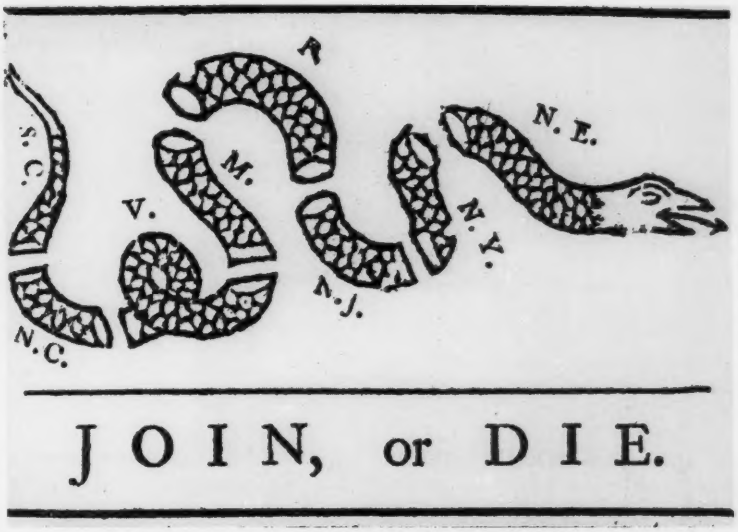




"Convention at Philadelphia" (1787), an engraving from the Continental Congress on-line collection; "Join, Or Die," a 1754 woodcut by an unknown artist

News from the National Digital Library:

Library Releases Five New On-Line Collections

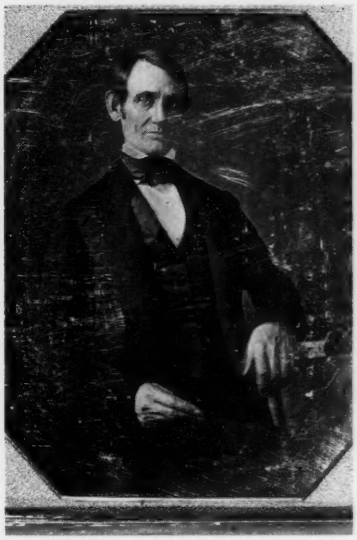
The National Digital Library (NDL) Program announced on March 5 the availability of five new collections from its World Wide Web homepage (http://www.loc.gov/).

Like the more than 40,000 images now available from the Library's Internet site, these are from American historical collections:

- Documents of the Continental Congress and Constitutional Convention, ca. 1774-1790; 272 broadside documents.
- African American Pamphlets from the Daniel A.P. Murray Collection, 1820-2910; 351 pamphlets on 11,000 pages.
- World's Transportation Commission Photographs by William Henry Jackson, 1894-1896; approximately 900 photographs.
- Selections from the National American Woman Suffrage Association Collection, 1860-1920; approximately 160 documents comprising 10,000 pages.
- Daguerreotype Photographs, 1842-1862; about 600 photographs.

Dr. Billington said when announcing the collections' launch before the House Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee, "These primary source materials from American history provide valuable content for enriching the education of students and lifelong learners."

The new offerings bring to more than a dozen the number of collections the Library has made freely available over the Internet. Others collections include Mathew Brady's Civil War photographs (many of which were used by filmmaker Ken Burns in his acclaimed PBS television series, "The Civil War"), recently recovered notebooks of Walt Whitman, sound recordings from the Nation's Forum and early motion pictures.

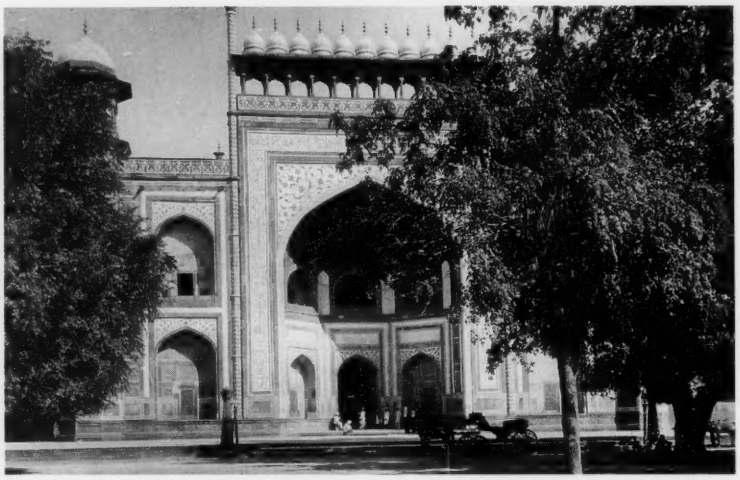


Daguerreotype of Abraham Lincoln

In addition, the Library has mounted an on-line congressional database called THOMAS, which offers bills of the current and previous Congress, the full text of the *Congressional Record*, the *Bill Digest* from the Library's Congressional Research Service and links to other legislative Internet sites.

The Library's Internet site also provides access to the card catalog, records from the U.S. Copyright Office and links to other Internet sites. Text and images from nearly a dozen of the Library's major exhibitions are also available, including rarely seen treasures such as Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and the rough draft of the Declaration of Independence in Jefferson's own hand.

A public-private partnership is making many of the digital initiatives possible. Congress has pledged $15 million in total appropriations for fiscal 1996-2000, and the Library is committed to raising $45 million more in private funds. So far, the Librarian has raised more than $20 million in private money for the NDL Program.



Gateway to the court of the Taj Mahal, from the World's Transportation Commission on-line collection

New NDL 'Learning Page' Aimed at Educators, Students

The NDL Program has launched a gateway to its on-line collections specifically tailored to the needs of students and educators.

The "Learning Page" can be accessed on the World Wide Web at http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpedu. The page offers organized help for searching the Library's primary resource collections, which have been available on the Internet since 1994.

The Learning Page is part of the Library's effort to extend its collections to a new constituency — the K-12 community — which is not served by its reading rooms.

Martha Dexter of the NDL Program's educational services area said, "We are eager to serve students and educators with free access to the Library's primary source materials of rare Americana. We also look forward to hearing from this new constituency with ideas on how best to meet their needs."

The Learning Page offers education-related help in searching the Library's on-line collections, categorized by Events, Topics, People, Time and Places of American history. New pathways lead teachers and students to digitized versions of historical American documents and photos including those of the Continental Congress, early films and Mathew Brady's Civil War photographs.

"Primary source materials from the Library add flesh and blood to the story of history," said Bernard Hollister of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy in Aurora, Ill.

Educators know history is much more than dates and facts. Most teachers, however, have little access to the primary sources that can make history come alive for students. Primary sources are the authentic documents, photographs and manuscripts that transform history into a well-told story. Through the Learning Page, students will have help accessing 29,000 photographs, 99 motion pictures, 5,900 documents and 59 sound recordings currently available from the Library. Over the years, items will be continuously added to the on-line collections.

The Learning Page also features an e-mail gateway to a reference librarian and comment sections that support the exchange of ideas among educators and students. The page includes a tutorial on historical detection that encourages learners to solve a mystery using information found in the on-line collections.

An Educator's Page offers files of teacher-generated project ideas for using the Library's historical collections in the classroom. Links to other history- and education-related Web sites for students and teachers have been included as well. The launch of the Learning Page coincides with the release of five digitized collections from the Library.

The Learning Page is made possible by a grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, which is helping the Library identify educational uses for digitized materials to develop students' research skills and critical thinking.

LC Budget Increase Supported:

Public Witnesses Testify Before Congress

Library union officials and the president of the American Library Association testified strongly in favor of Dr. Billington's proposed 5.8 percent budget increase last week.

On March 7, the day after the Librarian presented his proposed FY 1997 budget request of $373 million (including the authority to spend $28.3 million in receipts) to Congress, a House subcommittee heard testimony from public witnesses on the legislative branch appropriations bill, which governs Library spending. LC's FY 1996 budget is $352.4 million, including the authority to spend $27.7 million in receipts. LC's receipts come from the Copyright Office and the Cataloging Distribution Service.

One member of Congress and representatives from two associations and two labor unions testified on parts of the bill before Rep. Ron Packard's House Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee. The new fiscal year will start Oct. 1.

Mr. Packard (R-Calif.) is chairman of the panel. Rep. Dan Miller (R-Fla.) also attended the hearing.

Christine Shollenberger, president, AFSCME 2910, said that AFSCME 2910 members "wholeheartedly support" the Librarian's proposed FY '97 budget. She told Rep. Packard that labor-management relations had improved at LC since Harry Yee was named chief of labor relations in April 1995. She said Local 2910 reached agreements with LC managers in 22 bargaining situations last year.

Ms. Shollenberger said AFSCME members are looking forward to the "Internal University" organized by Hiram Davis to develop employee skills without additional expense.

She said she hopes the Library will consider a hiring freeze, as well as "buy-out" legislation, to ease the effects of reductions in force (RIFs). Ms. Shollenberger said she hopes the Library can avoid the negative effects of RIFs, such as "low morale, loss of productivity and lawsuits."

Mr. Packard agreed but said, "In the normal transition to modernize, agencies must downsize some areas and upgrade other areas to retain their overall staffing levels. It's normal and must be dealt with by those who administer the agency."

Dennis M. Roth, president of the Congressional Research Employees Association (CREA), told Mr. Packard that the members of CREA "strongly support" Dr. Billington's request for funding to cover mandatory pay and price increases in the FY 1997 budget. Mr. Roth said he realized that Congress will be trying to balance the budget in the next seven years but pointed out that due to tight budgets CRS had "done only minimal hiring over the past decade."

"The vast majority of our staff started working in the late 1970s and early 1980s. . . . [M]any will begin retiring over the next five to 10 years. CRS has reached the critical point where it needs to begin cultivating its next generation of workers," he said.

Betty Turock, president of the American Library Association (ALA), testified on behalf of ALA, the American Association of Law Libraries and the Association of Research Libraries. "We are grateful for your long and steady support of the Library of Congress," she told Mr. Packard, "and want you to remember that LC, the library of elected representatives, is also the de facto national library of the United States."

Ms. Turock also said she supported Dr. Billington's budget increase request. Specifically, she praised and asked continued support for: the National Digital Library Program, the Global Legal Information Network, the American Folklife Center, the National Film Preservation Board, security measures, preservation work, arrearage reduction and the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Ms. Turock told Packard the Copyright Office is an essential part of the Library and any attempt to separate it would have a detrimental effect.

James Gashel, director of Governmental Affairs, National Federation of the Blind, testified in support of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS). "Of the 40,000 new books published in English in this country each year, only a fraction of these ever find their way into braille or sound-recorded forms designed for use by the blind. Apart from volunteer groups and some other specialty producers, NLS is the only book and magazine reproduction source at work for blind people," Mr. Gashel said.

"The program meets the needs of nation's blind. . . . It's the only way we get books," he said. The program serves more than 750,000 blind or physically handicapped individuals each year, Mr. Gashel said.

Mr. Gashel said he strongly supported completion of the centralized braille facility that Congress partially funded last year. "The braille centralization plan has been developed through a collaborative process with substantial involvement by blind consumers. . . . The goal of consolidating the distribution of the braille collection is very sensible, and the plan is well thought out," he said.

Rep. Vernon J. Ehlers (R-Mich.) appeared before the panel to speak about efforts to standardize, upgrade and network the computers in House members' offices. He said that House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) asked him to help lead the effort because of his experience automating the Michigan Senate when he served in that body.

— *Edward Ohnemus*

Edward Ohnemus is assistant editor of The Gazette.

The Bolsheviks in Business:

The Russian Book Trade After the Revolution

Following is the last in a series of three articles on rare Russian materials in the Law Library (see LC Information Bulletin, *Feb. 5 and Feb. 19).*

The city of Tomsk was founded in a remote part of the Siberian taiga in 1604. The high walls of the fortress, embracing several dozen peasant households, served as a shelter for traders, artisans, clergy and government bureaucrats who were charged with collecting the salt tax and sable levies so necessary to the czar's treasury in faraway Moscow.

Little remains of the early days of this remote but thriving settlement, so typical of Siberia's colonization, save some fragmentary documentary evidence, most of which is found in the Law Library of Congress. By what miracle did they end up here in Washington?

In the early decades of the Soviet Union, the government needed hard currency. The documents from Tomsk (and elsewhere) had ended up in the hands of amateur historians, state archives and book dealers. The Bolsheviks banned private ownership of historical documents and implemented an ambitious plan to confiscate all private collections, libraries and shops. The confiscated goods became the prime inventory for two entities set up by the security forces of the young state — "International Book" and "Antiquarian."

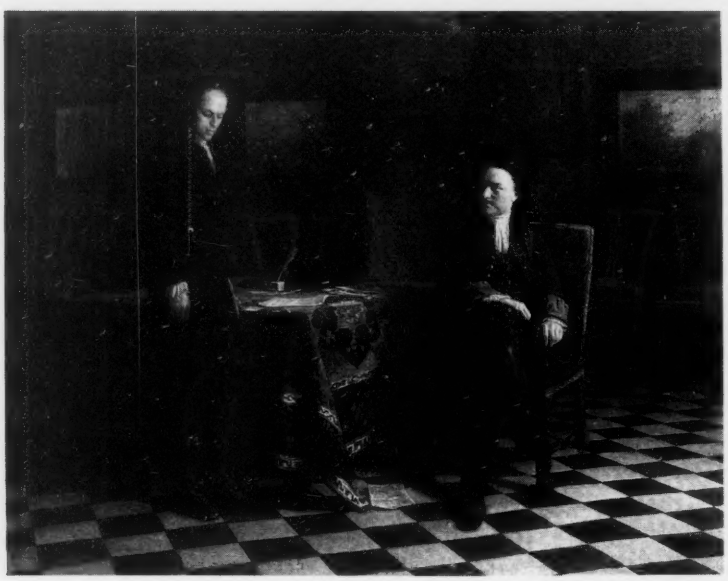
Although called firms, they were in fact departments of the NKVD, the forerunner of the KGB. The state was in desperate need of cash to build its industrial base and decided to sell its "assets" for hard currency. The NKVD started selling paintings from its museums — Rembrandts from the Hermitage to Andrew Mellon (who donated them to the National Gallery of Art) — and looked for buyers for its book and manuscript inventories.

It was, of course, harder to find buyers for old Slavic manuscripts than for Old Master paintings, but there were certain enterprising and far-sighted book dealers in the West who recognized this rare opportunity. The most successful was Israel Perlstein, a Polish immigrant who set up a book shop in New York City and boarded a boat to St. Petersburg in 1926 when he heard news of the sale of treasures from the basement of the Winter Palace.

What he found there was a trove of private — that is, nonstate — materials that had belonged to the Romanov family. He purchased the library of the imperial family and brought it back to America, where he immediately called Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress, to see if he would be interested in acquiring the materials. Putnam was and did, and today a large part of the private library of the Romanov family is housed in the Library's Rare Book and Special Collections Division.

Perlstein returned to Russia often and bought for a number of clients, including Harvard University, New York Public Library, Columbia University and others. But the Library of Congress was his best customer, and the Law Library in particular. On several occasions Putnam had to decline to purchase certain items for lack of funds, but he referred Perlstein to John Vance, Law Librarian of Congress, who had a larger acquisition fund, thanks to the critical advocacy of the Friends of the Law Library of Congress, established in 1930 to lobby Congress for greater support of its Law Library.

Founding members such as George Wickersham, Andrew Mellon, Harlan Fiske Stone, Roscoe Pound and Cordell Hull successfully appealed to Congress to increase the Law Library's acquisition budget during the



"Peter I Interrogates Czarevich Alexei at Peterhof," an 1871 painting by Nikolai Ge. Alexei was charged with treason and died under torture in 1718.

depths of the Great Depression.

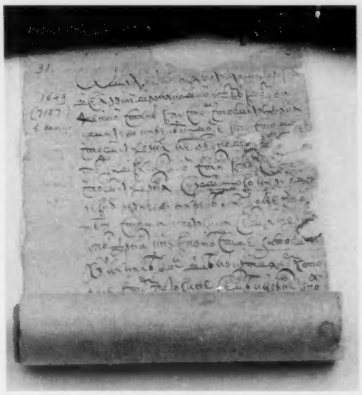
One of the most intriguing collections of rare Russian legal materials is the collection of scrolls from 1628 to the mid-18th century. Before Peter the Great made sweeping changes to the clerical traditions of Muscovy, clerks used to write all documents on narrow strips of paper that were glued together at the top and bottom to produce one long scroll.

Documents could measure tens of meters in length. The clerks wrote in an almost indecipherable shorthand known as *skoropis'* (literally, quick writing), which scholars today can read only with some training. The Library's collection of 48 scrolls received extensive preservation treatment in the 1980s. More recently, they have been fully described by visiting Russian scholars Andrei Pliguzov and Viacheslav Kozliakov and microfilmed to make them more widely available to Slavicists and legal historians around the world.

The scrolls come not only from the Tomsk city archives, but also from Pskov and Galich, from private family papers (the Gladkovs of Sviazhsk) and from churches and monasteries of Vologda.

Because of their quotidian nature, they reveal the details of local life (a mother petitioning for redress against a delinquent young girl who cut off her daughter's braid — a serious dishonor to her family), of clerical practice (the founding of new parishes and maintenance of church buildings), of land management practices (endless litigation over the right to exploit properties) and, most important, of how the Kremlin was able to govern the largest state in the world, reaching from the present borders of Poland to the Pacific Ocean.

One example is the detailed files of a criminal investigation of an accused thief who was tracked by officials from the scene of the crime in Tomsk all the way back to Moscow, a distance of several thousand miles. One petition even recounts the affecting story of a peasant family who hid the Patriarch Filaret from his enemies during the years of civil unrest following Boris Godunov's death in 1605, known as the Time of Troubles.



Legal scrolls, like this one from 1649, reveal intimate details of local Russian life from 1628 to the mid-18th century.

Among printed treasures are a group of books with unique annotations, such as a rare copy of *The Regulations of Louis XIV, King of France and Navarre, for the Naval Forces and their Arsenals* (1715), a translation of a French naval codex of 1689, which Peter ordered. Altogether only 26 copies were printed and only a handful survive. The Law Library's copy is unique because it is extensively annotated, most likely by the translator himself, Konon Zotov. Indeed, it appears to be the proof copy. There are also unique manuscript decrees from the reign of Anna Ioannovna (1730-41) and unpublished decrees of Peter the Great's daughter Elizabeth, promulgated in 1729 and signed in her own hand.

Another collection purchased from Perlstein by the Law Library is a collection of more than 130 18th century books, which comprise single known copies of works (*Regulation on Bankruptcy*, 1741) and an exceptionally rare copy of the Moscow printing of the public announcement of the guilty verdict of Peter the Great's only son on charges of treason (1718).

Shortly after Czarevich Alexis was found guilty of plotting to overthrow his father, he died under torture. In an early example of political "spin control," Peter had his own exculpatory version of events printed up and dispatched quickly to the capitals of Europe to counter the rumors that the "barbarian czar" had killed his son with his bare hands.

To this day, historians are divided on what role Peter played in his son's death, and this slim tome proves that it was within days of the event that rumors began implicating the Czar Reformer in murder.

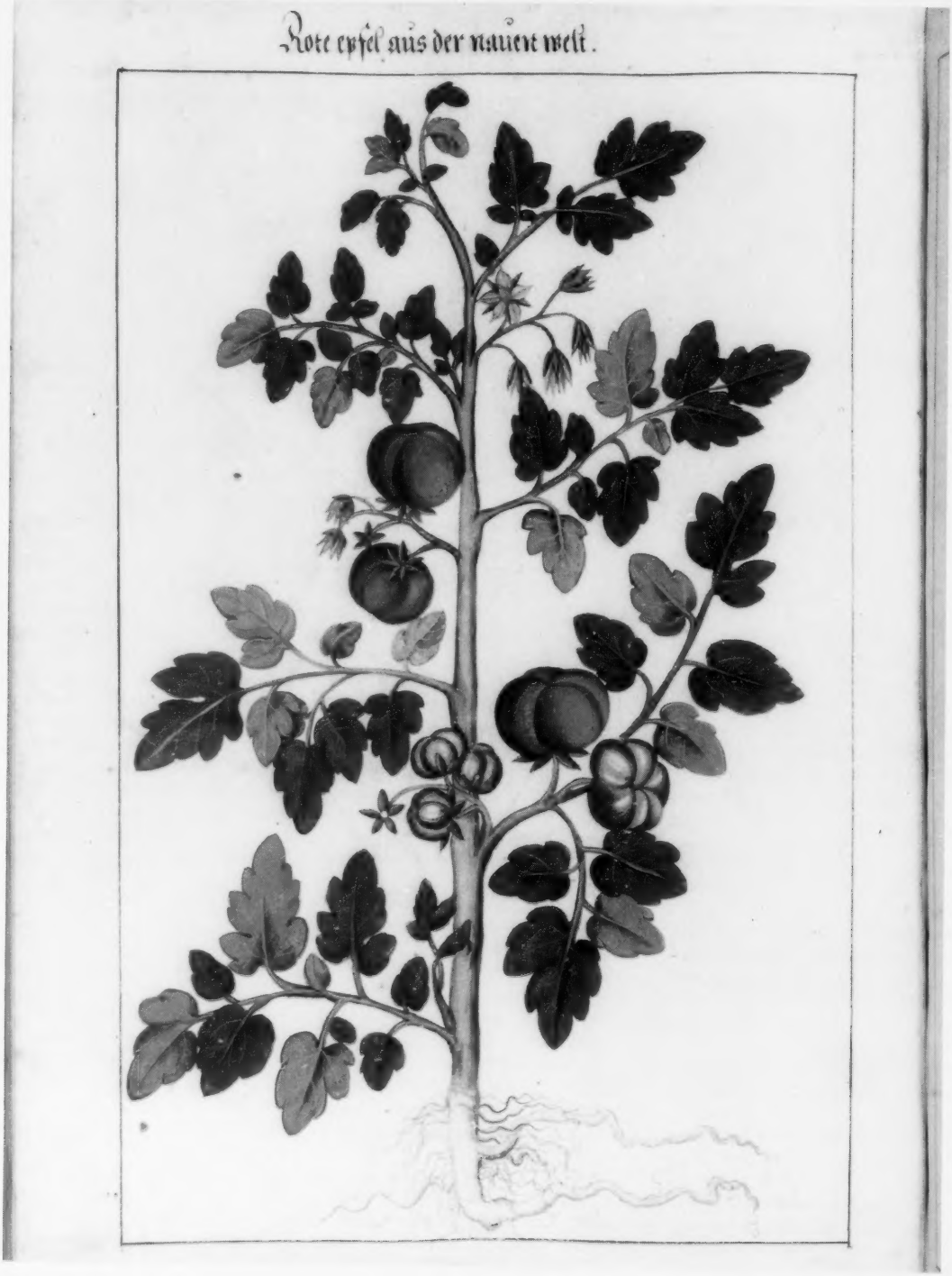
Concrete information about how much hard currency was earned for Soviet coffers during this period in the 1920s and 1930s of marketing art and manuscripts remains buried in the archives of the NKVD and its successors in Moscow. But there is no question that the selective sale of pieces of Russia's history to research libraries has richly benefited the study of Russia in America. Long before the Cold War, when study of the Soviet Union became a matter of national security, prescient book dealers and librarians, including Herbert Putnam and John Vance, were ready to take advantage of the often bizarre ways rare books and manuscripts enter the marketplace.

—Andrei Pliguzov and Abby Smith

Dr. Pliguzov is a senior research fellow at the Russian Academy of Sciences who is doing archival research in the Law Library. Dr. Smith is assistant to the associate librarian for Library Services and holds a doctorate in Russian history from Harvard University.

First National Poetry Month to Be Observed at LC

On Tuesday, April 9, former Poets Laureate Rita Dove, Anthony Hecht and Mark Strand will read from their work in the Northwest Curtain, 2nd floor, Great Hall, Jefferson Building. The reading will begin at 6:45 p.m. Tickets are not required. Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry Robert Hass will introduce the poets.


Rote epffel aus der nauen welt.

"Red apples from the New World (Tomatoes)" (opposite), by David Redtel, from the unpublished *Kräuterbuch* (Book of Herbs, 1563); sleds like this one from *A Book of Various Inventions for Sled Travel* (Daniel Bretschneider, 1602) were used in opulent pageants to enhance a ruler's image before his subjects and other rulers.

Dresden's Golden Age:

Treasures from the Saxon State Library, Part II

By Kathleen Cassedy

This is the second of two articles on "Dresden: Treasures from the Saxon State Library," a major exhibition at the Library of Congress from April 11 through July 13, 1996. More than 180 rare artifacts will offer a rich sampling of German and general European culture from the High Middle Ages through the 19th century.

This article focuses on the cultural icons of Dresden: the Electoral Hofkapelle, a renowned court musical group; the Frauenkirche, a Protestant cathedral and city landmark; and categories that highlight cultural periods associated with Dresden: Twilight of a Century, The Augustan Era, The Age of Goethe and Romanticism. A final section, From Faraway Lands, shows exquisite manuscripts produced outside Europe. (The first article [see LC Information Bulletin, *March 4] described early publishing and works from the German Reformation.)*

The baroque period began in Saxony with the reign of Elector Prince Johann Georg II (1656-1680), who was responsible for many of the grand buildings that transformed the medieval city. Among them was Dresden's first opera house, designed by architect Wolf Caspar von Klengel. Prince Johann Georg brought Italian operas and French plays, including Molière's, to court and they were performed at the opera house as well as at festivals and contests in the princely residences.

During Prince Johann Georg's reign, members of his court were permitted to use his extensive private library — the first step toward establishing a public library in Saxony. Many works from this early collection, in the exhibition, show how Dresden citizens lived in the 17th century. Among the most noteworthy pieces in this category are:

- A rare hand-colored map of Germania, printed on silk in 1680. It was produced in Amsterdam by the engraver Frederick de Wit, an important map publisher and dealer.
- "Dresden on the Elbe River," a 1650 engraving by Matthäus Merian depicting the Electoral Residence.
- The first printed compilation of the State of Saxony's laws, 1673.
- The first year's issues (1660) of the oldest German daily newspaper, published in Leipzig. One page contains international news, some as recent as a few weeks old.
- The rare, illustrated treatise describing the production and design of fireworks, a customary climax to baroque festivities.

The Augustan Era

During the reigns of Electors Frederick Augustus I (Augustus the Strong) and his son, Frederick Augustus II, Saxony enjoyed its "Augustan" Golden Age (1694-1763). Influenced by the Italian cities of Florence and Venice, these two rulers fashioned an environment in Dresden where creativity, craftsmanship and scholarship flourished. They opened their private art collections and library to the public, and produced free opera, frequent pageants and other celebrations. As the center of cultural and intellectual life, Dresden attracted scholars and artists from all over Europe.

Augustus the Strong was well trav-

"Muhammad splits the moon," from a Persian book of prophecies published in 1831 by Leipzig orientalist Heinrich Fleischer

eled by the time he became elector at age 24. He spoke French, Spanish and Italian. During his reign (1694-1733), Dresden became one of the most beautiful and cosmopolitan courts in Europe, rivaled only by Versailles, and its library became one of the most famous in Germany.

Although Saxony was Protestant, Elector Augustus converted to Catholicism in 1697 in order to become king of Poland. It was in Dresden, however, that he concentrated on his building projects, working with master architects such as Matthäus Daniel Pöppelmann. The city took on a baroque splendor, including 20 palaces — some of which the elector built for his mistresses — and the Zwinger, a palatial arena designed by Pöppelmann.

Pöppelmann also designed the Japanese Palace, built between 1715 and 1717, to house the king's collection of Far Eastern porcelain and local Meissen china. The palace shows many influences of Oriental design, which Pöppelmann may have studied in the collections of both the art galleries and the library.

Augustus the Strong was an ambitious administrator. He often held extravagant court festivals and events that displayed Saxony's cultural magnificence and military might. Pageants and masquerades, which often took place in the Zwinger pavilion, were popular with the nobility. Among exhibition treasures showing court scenes are:

• An 18th century engraving of the Zwinger court pavilion.

• Two 1713 color-wash drawings by Pöppelmann, the baroque architect. One shows a design for an elevated pavilion in the Zwinger; the other is an elevated interior for a temporary Pantheon designed for the Elector's 49th birthday celebration.

• 18th century figures costumed for a masquerade.

The library, which had been housed in cramped quarters, moved to two wings of the Zwinger after it was built in 1727. A book-collecting craze took hold in the families of the nobility and rich bourgeoisie during this time. "Saxony was reveling in bibliography," writes Wolfgang Frühauf in the exhibition catalog. "Literary history and bibliography had become fashionable. Book publishing and collecting had reached their zenith."

The best of these collections eventually found their way into the court library. In 1736, the library acquired the collection of Johann von Besser, a poet and high court official. His 18,000-volume collection was strongest in politics, history and court ceremony. Following this acquisition, the library closed to recatalog its holdings. When it reopened, patronage increased. In 1753 the library began keeping a patron's ledger for distinguished visitors, who included Kaiser Leopold II of Austria, Napoleon and several other rulers.

Among exhibition highlights from the Augustan era are:

• The largest and most important 18th century German encyclopedia, published in 1733. Volume 3 is dedicated to Elector Augustus the Strong and shows his portrait.

• A letter in French from Augustus the Strong to Joseph Kos, the crown prince's tutor, ordering him to stay in Venice "due to certain circumstances." Several months later the young prince's conversion to Catholicism was announced in Vienna.

As elector, Frederick Augustus II (reign 1733-1763) was so preoccupied with high culture, especially the opera, that he left responsibility for running the state to his powerful prime minister, Count Heinrich von Brühl.

During his reign, Dresden reached its cultural zenith but lost its political might following the War of the Austrian Succession (1740-1758) and the Seven Years' War (1756-1763). However, even when the treasury was de-

pleted, following the elector's death, the legacy of his commitment to the library and scholarship continued with the purchase of two major collections.

In 1765, the court library purchased the 42,000-volume collection of Count Heinrich von Bünau, which was considered one of the most scholarly libraries in Germany. Von Bünau's collection was particularly strong in history and included pamphlets from the Thirty Years' War and funeral orations. In 1769 the library acquired the 62,000-volume collection of the late Count Heinrich von Brühl. His library concentrated on the arts and literature.

Following these acquisitions, the Dresden Court Library outgrew its space at the Zwinger. In 1786, it moved to the Japanese Palace and in 1788 it became the Electoral Public Library. Among the exhibition's paintings and watercolors of Dresden is a 1795 watercolor of the Japanese Palace, home to the library until it was partially destroyed in 1945.

Dresden's first church was the Frauenkirche, built around 1142. The church was rebuilt as a Protestant cathedral from 1726 to 1734. Its enormous dome, called the Stone Bell, dominated the cityscape and was a symbol of Dresden for 200 years.

The Frauenkirche represents the pinnacle of Lutheran architecture. The church was designed by the baroque architect Georg Bähr. In keeping with the special features of Protestant worship, Bähr created a central structure in which the altar, pulpit, baptismal font and organ were in full view of the 4,000-person congregation beneath the bell-shaped dome. The dome was 23.5 meters wide, equal to another enormous city crown — the dome on the Zwinger — and the tower was 95 meters tall. The church was further distinguished by its famous Silbermann organ, which J.S. Bach played in December 1736 in the presence of the court.

During World War II, bombing toppled the dome. For years it was left on the ground, amid the surrounding rubble, as a war memorial. Recently, a privately funded effort has begun to reconstruct the Frauenkirche.

On July 6, 1843, a polyphonic work, *The Love Feast of the Apostles* by Richard Wagner, premiered in the church. The piece was sung by 1,200 Saxon singers of the Dresden Hofkapelle, which Wagner directed from 1842 until 1848. The original score, autographed by Wagner, is in the exhibition. Other highlights from the church on display are:

- An original 1940 recording of the ringing of the Frauenkirche bells.
- A watercolor of Dresden with the Frauenkirche in view.
- A 1726 scale drawing of the Frauenkirche in the book *Plans and Elevations of Various Churches*. This original drawing has handwritten approval by Count Augustus Christoph von Wacherbarth, dated June 26, 1726.

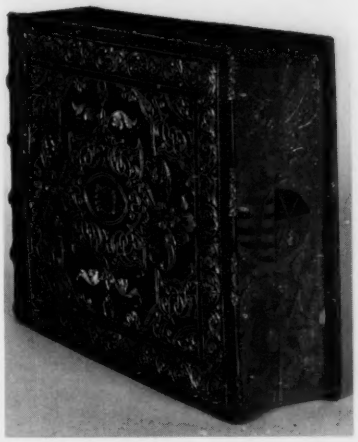
In 1806 Saxony became a kingdom, and the library was renamed the Royal Public Library. Later that century (1887-1907), the library began to collect printed music collections from Saxon churches and schools to complement the royal collection of 4,000 volumes and 300 cases of 18th and 19th century court music. These archives are still heavily used by the music industry.

The Electoral Hofkapelle

A section of the exhibition is devoted to the Hofkapelle, a celebrated musical performing group featuring vocalists and instrumentalists who traveled with the Saxon Electors when they visited the Reichstag and other European courts.

The Hofkapelle, founded in 1548 by Elector Moritz as the earliest Lutheran court ensemble, participated in festivals, state celebrations, sporting events, tournaments, lavish opera productions, weddings, festive processions and court worship.

Among the exhibition illustrations that feature the Hofkapelle are two gouache paintings of court processions. One of these, published in 1582,



Division Tables (ca. 1570) bears a binding by Jakob Krause, with the electoral coat of arms.

shows Elector Augustus (predecessor of Augustuses I and II; reigned 1553-1586) with Hofkapelle members dressed as women, carrying their instruments to a wedding party. This item was originally a scroll, but later was bound as a book.

Reflecting the international atmosphere of Dresden, it was not unusual for the director or members of the Hofkapelle to be Italian, Dutch or English. When members of the Hofkapelle traveled to other countries they learned new musical styles to incorporate into their repertoire.

Opera was as popular in 17th century Dresden as it is today. Between 1662 and 1816, more than 1,000 operas were either composed for or performed at the Dresden court. The Dresden court opera reached its musical zenith under the direction of Johann Adolf Hasse (1734-1763).

The Hofkapelle attracted renowned soloists like violinist Johann Georg Pisendel. In 1685, Johann Georg III lured a prima donna to Dresden from the court of the duke of Mantua; she was the Hofkapelle's first female singer. Female roles had been performed by men singing fal-

setto or by castrati. In fact, Giovanni Bontempi, a Hofkapelle director, was a castrato.

The Royal Public Library established one of the first music departments in a German library in 1816. The exhibition shows the first subject catalog, entitled "Musik." Early musical acquisitions were from Paris and Venice.

The Dresden opera, or "Hofoper," had two outstanding periods under the directorships of Carl Maria Weber (1817-1826) and Richard Wagner (1842-1849).

This exhibition features autographed or annotated scores by Carl Maria Weber, Richard Wagner, Antonio Vivaldi, Heinrich Schütz, Johannes Brahms and Robert Schumann.

Among the exhibition's musical highlights are:

• *Mass in B Minor* by Johann Sebastian Bach. This 1733 manuscript score was transcribed by Bach himself.

• The only known copy of the *Celebratory Motet* by Johann Hermann Schein, the cantor of the St. Thomas Church of Leipzig, on the 100th anniversary of the posting of Luther's theses in Wittenberg, 1617.

• *The 119th Psalm of David* by Heinrich Schütz. This 1671 manuscript is autographed by the great composer and is from his last work. This portion is for six vocal parts.

• *The 1818 Overture of Celebration for His Majesty the King of Saxony*, by Carl Maria Weber, which contains the melody "God Save the King."

• A collaborative work by Vivaldi and the Dresden musical director, Johann Georg Pisendel. Autographed by Vivaldi, it was published between 1717 and 1730 in Dresden and Venice.

• An exact copy from 1672 of the score for the opera *Daphne* by Bontempi and Guiseppe Peranda. This work is a valuable source of information on early Dresden opera practices.

• A 1679 drawing of the stage of the Dresden opera house in 1667, included in the text edition for the opera ballet, *Judgment of Paris and the Rape of Helen*, published in 1679.

By 1845, the Royal Public Library had been surpassed in size by the Bavarian Court Library. Rather than continue to collect works universally, it began to concentrate on history, geography, political science, belles lettres, art and musical works. The Royal Public Library became one of the first German libraries to specialize in regional studies, especially in materials regarding Saxony, such as chronicles and family records.

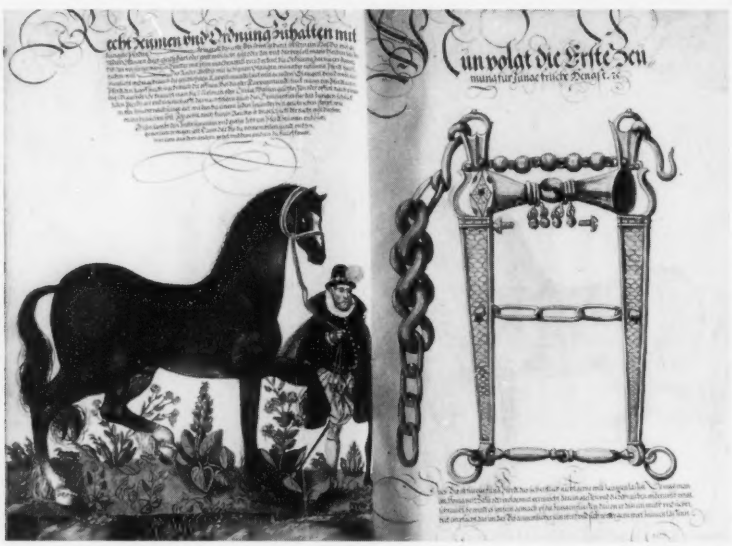
The library's collections attracted great thinkers and writers, such as the poets Johann Christoph Frederick Schiller and Johann Wolfgang Goethe. Their masterpieces are included in the exhibition:

• *The Sorrows of Young Werther.* This rare first edition (anonymously issued) of the 18th century best-seller by Goethe marked the beginning of modern German prose.

• *The Robbers*, the most significant drama of the "Storm and Stress" period in the 18th century by Johann Christoph Frederick Schiller.

Literature during the Romantic era flourished in Dresden. Exhibition highlights include works by the German poet Novalis, the poet and translator August Schlegel and the literary journals *Athenaeum* and *Phoebus*.

During the Weimar Republic, which began in 1919, the Royal Public Library and all the former court libraries were combined under the name of the Saxon State Library.



"A young stallion and the bit" is from *Della cavalleria* (1576) by Georg Engelhart Löneiss, Elector Augustus's equestrian master and the administrator of his official court functions. The book contained the summation of Löneiss' expertise and belonged to the elector's private library.

From Faraway Places

Several oriental manuscripts were acquired during the wars of the Ottoman Empire at the end of the 17th century. Among these is the oldest artifact in the library, a third century B.C. Javanese palmleaf book, a traditional book form in southern Asia. The leaves were inscribed with a metal stylus and soot was rubbed into the marks to make them visible. The leaves are held together with wood and cords.

Other items include an Ethiopian prayer scroll and a West Mongolian copy of a Buddhist manuscript (both from the 18th century) and a Chinese

"Jasmine bush with butterfly and snake" is from *Metamorphosis of the Insects of Surinam* (1705), an unusual work by Maria Sibylla Merian, a Dutch naturalist.

almanac from the 19th century. A Persian treasure is "Muhammed splits the moon" from the *Falnameh*, a 16th century Persian book of prophesies.

The exhibition is funded by the Dresden Hilton Hotel, the Donors' Association for the Promotion of Sciences and Humanities in Germany, the Dresden Cultural Foundation of the Dresdner Bank, Friends of the Saxon State Library, the Saxon State Government and the Federal Republic of Germany.

"Dresden: Treasures from the Saxon State Library" will be on view April 11 through July 13, Monday through Friday 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Margrit B. Krewson, the Library's German/Dutch area specialist, organized and raised all funds for the exhibition. The accompanying catalog (see LC *Information Bulletin*, March 4), which she edited, is available from the Library's Sales Shop.

— Kathleen Cassedy is a free-lance writer in the Public Affairs Office.

*CHRONOLOGY OF SAXON STATE LIBRARY**

1206 Dresden first mentioned, as a fording point on the Elbe River

1423 Ruler of Saxony is made elector of the Holy Roman Empire

1485 Elector of Saxony chooses Dresden as main residence

1517 Martin Luther's "95 Theses on the Misuses of Indulgences" purportedly posted on the doors of the Wittenberg Castle Church

1520 Luther publishes *Address to the Christian Nobility of the German Nation*

1522 Luther's German translation of the New Testament published

1548 Hofkapelle (court orchestra) founded; forerunner of Saxon State Orchestra

1556 Royal Saxon Library founded by Prince Elector Augustus (1553-1586) as his personal library

1694-1733 Reign of Augustus I, the Strong

1709-1732 Zwinger "arena," an art gallery and festival courtyard, is built beside the palace by architect Pöppelmann

1727 Royal Library moves into two wings of Zwinger and is made accessible to the public

1733-1763 Reign of Augustus II

1736 Johann von Besser's collection acquired by the Royal Library

1756-1763 Seven Years' War slows library's growth

1763-1806 Reign of Augustus III

1764 Count von Bünau's library purchased

1768 Count von Brühl's library purchased

1798 "Romantic School" of literature created in Dresden

1806 Holy Roman Empire dissolved during Napoleonic wars; elector is made king of Saxony and library becomes Royal Public Library

1807 Journal *Phoebus* founded, focused on the "Romantic" Movement and published in Dresden

1884-1887 Albertinum built to house the Sculpture Collection

1918 Last King of Saxony abdicates; Dresden becomes part of Germany

1919 With establishment of the Weimar Republic, library officially becomes the Saxon State Library

*Adapted from *The Splendor of Dresden*, National Gallery of Art, 1978

Bringing Back History:

Library Hosts Symposium on Reviving History Education

History teachers, professors, authors and scholars gathered at the Library on March 1-2 for what they hoped was a historic occasion: the launch of a national campaign to restore history education to a central role in America's schools.

Convened by the Library, the National Council for History Education (NCHE) and the Council for Basic Education, the "Symposium on Advancing History in America's Schools" was a response to recent reports showing that most American students' knowledge of history has fallen far below established American and world standards.

At the close of the two-day session, the 145 participants declared that the decline in Americans' historical knowledge can be reversed. They offered recommendations for revitalizing history education.

The event attracted distinguished historians and writers including Pulitzer Prize winner David McCullough; William McNeill, professor of history emeritus at the University of Chicago; Spencer Crew, director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History; Mary Beth Norton, professor of history at Cornell University; Vartan Gregorian, a historian and president of Brown University; and Lewis Lapham, editor of *Harper's* magazine.

The event was organized by Theodore K. Rabb, professor of history at Princeton University and chairman of the board for NCHE. Dr. Billington's "enthusiasm and support were crucial, as were [Director of Scholarly Programs] Prosser Gifford's," to staging the symposium, Dr. Rabb said. "First, the Librarian is a very distinguished historian himself. Second, if any major American institution can put its weight behind the need for history in the schools, I can't think of a weightier and more resonant institution to do that than the Library. . . . [The Library] is our national memory embodied."

One of the meeting's goals was to unite teachers from every state and all levels of education — kindergarten through university — with leading American historians. With support from the Ford Foundation, NCHE selected 120 teachers from a nationwide pool of applicants to participate in the conference and discussions.

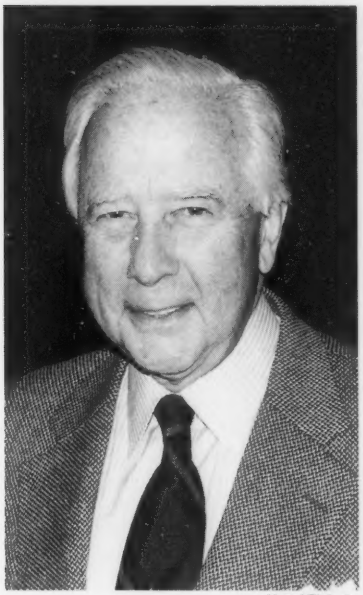
History teachers can be key to reforming America's "present-minded society," emphasized Dr. Billington in his remarks. "It's the teacher, the human interface . . . who, at the end of the semester, remains the key to learning.

"In this society — and particularly in this city," he continued, "the study of history is too often subordinated to the preoccupations of the moment. As a historian myself, I have long been deeply committed to the value of understanding the past if we are to make sense of what is happening now and may happen in the future."

Yusef El-Amin

Yusef El-Amin

Dr. Billington: Teachers "remain the key to learning"; Princeton University History Professor Theodore Rabb converses with Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.



Yusef El-Amin

Pulitzer Prize-winning author David McCullough was inspired to become a historian by some dramatic photos he saw at the Library.

Mr. McCullough, author of *Truman* and *Brave Companions: Portraits in History* among other works, told how he became a historian. "I became a historian by pure chance," he recalled. While touring the Library's Thomas Jefferson Building with his wife, he happened to pass a table where some historical photos lay waiting to be filed. They were "amazing photos of the Johnstown flood of 1889. . . . The extent of the violence revealed in them was so overwhelming that we felt we had to read about it." Mr. McCullough went on to write a book about the Johnstown flood — but, more important, the photos became "the springboard that launched me into a whole new career."

While a guest lecturer at Cornell University, Mr. McCullough tried to give his students a similar experience by randomly distributing historical photographs and telling the students to write about the photos in any way they chose. Most of the students attested to the potency of the exercise, and several are now working as historians.

"One cannot underestimate the fascination and the effect on us of stories," Mr. McCullough concluded.

Other speakers addressed the crucial role of history education in helping students become good citizens.

Lewis Lapham joked that he had majored in history but "lacked the fortitude" to become a history professor. "Seriously," he added, "the absence of history knowledge [in today's students] is alarming to me. I give it a sense of danger and urgency because, if you don't know where you came in in the story, you're at the mercy of the mass media. . . . History gives people a sense of their kinship with the wider self."

The symposium produced three major recommendations for improving history education. First, secondary education should include at least four full years of history instruction between grades seven and 12, and social studies in the elementary grades should be history-centered. Second, history teachers should meet certain minimum requirements for certification. Finally, history instruction should focus on stories, "habits of mind" and the ways people learn about history; it should cover "four centuries of U.S. history and every major era of Western civilization and/or world history."

The recommendations will be finalized and published by NCHE, a nonprofit organization whose mission is "to create a grass-roots commitment to history," according to Dr. Rabb. NCHE publishes a national newsletter, *History Matters!*, as well as scholarly papers, and conducts a variety of national conferences and professional development programs for history educators.

At the end of Friday's session, Robert Zich, director of electronic programs for the Library, and Martha Dexter, project manager with the Library's National Digital Library (NDL) Program, gave an audiovisual presentation on the resources NDL offers to history teachers and scholars using the World Wide Web.

Yusef El-Amin

William McNeill, professor of history emeritus at the University of Chicago, is author of *The Rise of the West* and other works of world history.

Educators and K-12 students are one of the primary constituencies of NDL. Early this year NDL unveiled the Learning Page, a World Wide Web gateway tailored specifically to helping this group access the Library's historical collections (URL: http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpedu; see story on page TK).

"We will be keenly interested in your reactions because we are all clearly on the threshold of new possibilities," said Dr. Billington. "Being able to combine music, maps, photographs, film, text, voice in an integrated way and make this accessible via the Internet can make history come alive for students."

— *Kristin Knauth*

Kristin Knauth is a free-lance writer/editor working in the Public Affairs Office.

Plato Persists:

Bradley Lecturer Compares The Republic *to Modern Society*

"The ideas of Plato's *Republic* are still with us, posing disturbing questions about democratic freedom," said classical scholar Martha Craven Nussbaum on March 6. Dr. Nussbaum presented "Plato's *Republic*: The Good Society and the Deformation of Desire" to an audience of several hundred in the Madison Building, followed by a lively discussion.

The Bradley Foundation lecture series, sponsored by the Rare Book and Special Collections Division, is funded by the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation to examine works that have been important to Western citizenship, statecraft and public policy.

Martha Nussbaum: Plato makes a "deadly assault" on democracy.

Since 1995 Dr. Nussbaum has concurrently held appointments at the University of Chicago in the law and divinity schools. She has also taught at Brown and Harvard and serves on the board of the American Council of Learned Societies. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Nussbaum earned both her M.A. and Ph.D. in classical philology from Harvard University, and she has published extensively on Greek philosophy. Among her more recent works are *The Therapy of Desire: Theory and Practice in Hellenistic Ethics* (1994), *The Fragility of Goodness: Luck and Ethics in Greek Tragedy and Philosophy* (1986) and *Citizens of the World: A Classical Defense in Radical Reform in Higher Education* (forthcoming).

Even though Plato's *Republic* was written more than two millennia ago — between 380 and 370 B.C. — its influence is still relevant, Dr. Nussbaum said. She cited diverse current situations in which Platonic theories are evident, from illiberal regimes such as Singapore's to U.S. law.

Although former Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew does not call himself a Platonist, says Dr. Nussbaum, his programs — which set controls on public and private behavior, promote high birthrates in the "alleged" intelligent classes and provide stratified education arranged by "wise rulers" — are remarkably close to Plato's ideals as set out in *The Republic*.

"Lee holds that there is an 'essential conflict' between political liberties and human well being. That political institutions must take responsibility for ordering and constraining choice, and this requires us not to care a great deal about liberty," Dr. Nussbaum explained. This view is often espoused during debates today on human rights and moral order, she added.

Dr. Nussbaum cited a 1983 Minneapolis ordinance allowing women who believe they have been harmed as a result of violent pornography to sue its purveyors or producers. The argument supporting this ruling follows Plato's belief that governments should respond to moral problems and constrain choices. The opposition claims "that any criticism of existing preferences and desires as deformed or diseased is intrinsically undemocratic," she said.

According to Dr. Nussbaum, Plato's *Republic*, the first great work of political philosophy in the Western philosophical tradition, provides a profound analysis of humans and their desires. It is also "a deadly assault" on democracy, since it denounces free speech, majority rule and other freedoms that democracies hold dear.

Because Plato believed that majority rule imposes its unordered whims by force, social norms should instead be shaped by "true wisdom." Justice, in Plato's view, "involves the correct ordering of the soul and its desires," Dr. Nussbaum said. To achieve this correct ordering one needs to live in a correct or ideal society, founded on five elements:

(1) Labor is divided by matching personality types and intelligence to occupations.

(2) The nuclear family is eliminated so that children will not love one group more than another, and the state also fulfills a parental role.

(3) Education is controlled and censored so that impressionable minds will not develop "deformed" desires.

(4) Women will receive an education equal to men and also be given other equal opportunities and roles in society.

(Cont. on next page)

News from the National Library Service:

New Guide Helps Readers Use Electronic Books

Blind and physically handicapped individuals who are seeking many kinds of specialized reading material now have a new guide, *Another Source for Books: Electronic Text*, published by the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress (NLS).

Through the use of adaptive equipment, blind readers can now have virtually the same access as sighted readers to books and other information available via computers. Under the heading "another source for books," the most recent issue of the newsletter *Projects & Experiments* provides an introduction to basic computer technology, lists on-line resources for full-text reading material and explains how electronic technology opens up reading opportunities never before possible.

Articles cover: the range of material available on floppy diskettes, CD-ROM disks and on-line; how this material can be used in daily life; and the computer and adaptive equipment needed to provide the information in tactile or audio form. Adaptive equipment generally consists of either a braille output device or hardware and software for synthetic speech.

Other articles deal with access to reference books — long a problem for blind individuals because of the space needed for multivolume braille works and the near impossibility of keeping such information current — and with types of library resources for access to electronic documents.

The publication includes a list of Internet sites that have large collections of full-text public-domain books. Each citation gives a uniform resource locator so that readers can connect to the sites with personal computers using World Wide Web browsing software. This list is also available to Internet users on the NLS homepage (http://lcweb.loc.gov/nls/nls.html).

Another Source for Books: Electronic Text is available in print and braille formats. For copies, contact: Reference Section, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20542.

❑ **Author Donates Books to Library Friends Group.** Award-winning author Daniel Quinn has donated 576 audio copies of his book *Ishmael* to Friends of Libraries for Blind and Physically Handicapped Individuals in North America Inc., a nonprofit group that supports library programs such as NLS.

The Bantam audiocassettes presenting an abridged version of the book will be sent to Friends members as part of the organization's "At-Home Cultural Series," and remaining copies will be offered to registered NLS patrons.

The book tells of a man who responds to an advertisement seeking a pupil who desires to save the world. He meets Ishmael, a gorilla who communicates with humans telepathically. Ishmael explains that humans are destroying other species and warns that, like most other species, they must obey the peacekeeping laws of nature.

Ishmael has been used as a text in courses on environmental and sociological topics and has been translated into seven languages. It won the 1991 $500,000 Turner Tomorrow Fellowship, established to encourage authors to seek "creative and positive solutions to global problems."

Mr. Quinn is a former executive in educational publishing and currently writes and lectures on environmental and future-oriented issues.

An unabridged version of *Ishmael* is available to blind and physically handicapped readers through the network of libraries supporting the Library of Congress talking-book program.

Plato *(Cont. from previous page)*

(5) Because the state governs by reason rather than desire, it will be ruled by philosophers who have been carefully groomed and educated for this service.

Plato's conclusions are based on his diagnosis of human nature and human deficiency, Dr. Nussbaum said. "If we find his diagnosis compelling, as I believe we should, we are under heavy pressure to show to ourselves and to others why the repellent conclusions should not be drawn. That is why Plato has been over the centuries the best friend democracy could have: for he challenged it to know, and to justify, itself."

While most democratic societies do not adopt all of Plato's proposals for an ideal society, they do find many of his ideas and arguments valuable and relevant. Plato's *Republic* is important because it explains how "desire is in part a social artifact, that people's anger and grief and passion are shaped by the institutions and social norms in which they dwell," she said.

According to Dr. Nussbaum, in the United States Platonic precepts exist in judiciary and administrative governing bodies when they play the role of "enlightened philosopher."

Yet U.S. democracy greatly differs from Plato's view in the importance attached by Americans to personal liberty.

"It is no chance matter we are discussing, but how one should live," concluded Dr. Nussbaum, quoting Socrates from *The Republic*.

— *Kathleen Cassedy*

Kathleen Cassedy is a free-lance writer/editor working in the Public Affairs Office.

News from the Center for the Book:

Publishing Archives Symposium Planned on Oct. 3-5, 1996

The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and Columbia University's Rare Book and Manuscript Library will sponsor a symposium on Oct. 3-5 at Columbia on the topic of publishing archives.

According to John Y. Cole, director of the Center for the Book, and Jean Ashton, director of the Rare Book and Manuscript Library, the symposium "will discuss ways that the changing marketplace and technological environment are affecting the value and use of publisher's archives as primary source materials."

Major topics include new formats for publishing archives, intellectual property issues, changing patterns of collecting and use, new ways of exchanging information about publishing, relations among librarians and publishers and trends in documenting the publishing process. There also will be a presentation about a survey of 20th century American publishers' archives, undertaken for the Book Industry Study Group by Arizona State University's Scholarly Publishing Program.

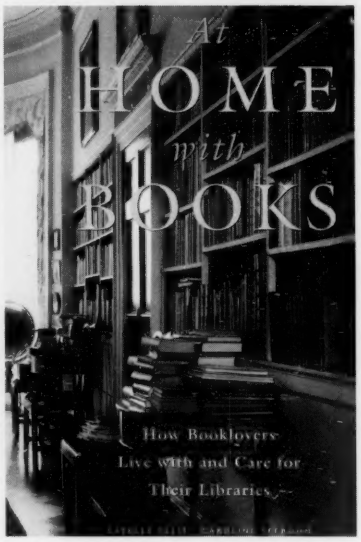
The symposium is open to the public. It begins with a dinner (charge: $40) on the Columbia University campus on Oct. 3 and concludes with a workshop on Oct. 5. For reservations and further information, write Publishing Archives Symposium, Center for the Book, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540-4920.

Book Industry Study Group, Inc.

❑ **Current Research about Books and Publishing.** The Book Industry Study Group (BISG), sponsor of the publishing archives survey that will be presented at the Oct. 3-5 Center for the Book/Columbia University symposium, is a not-for-profit organization that sponsors and encourages research about print and electronic publishing. Two BISG-sponsored committees, Book Industry Systems Advisory Committee and Serials Industry Systems Advisory Committee, set the standards and write the procedures for the electronic flow of information within the industry. More than 200 organizations belong to BISG, which is a reading promotion partner of Center for the Book.

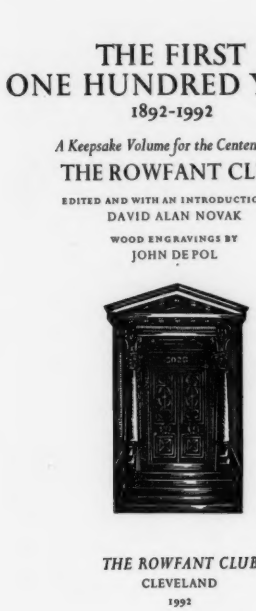
Member organizations include the principal segments of the industry: publishers, wholesalers, manufacturers, retailers, printers, binders, paper suppliers, multimedia developers, librarians, book sellers and trade associations. They receive a variety of BISG publications that report statistics and research results, including the annuals *Book Industry Trends* and the *Consumer Research Study on Book Publishing*. For more information about BISG, its publications and membership categories, contact Sandra K. Paul, Book Industry Study Group, 160 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010-7000, telephone (212) 929-1393, fax (212) 989-7542, e-mail 4164812 @mcimail.com.

Voting members of BISG also receive *Publishing Research Quarterly*, which publishes scholarly articles, reports of significant research and research methods, review articles, surveys and essays "that contribute to knowledge about how publishing industries operate." Article and research submissions should be sent to the editor, Albert Henderson, P.O. Box 2423, Bridgeport, CN 06608-0423. For subscription orders and information, contact Publishing Research Quarterly, Department 4010, Transaction Periodicals Consortium, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08903, telephone (908) 445-2280.



❑ **"At Home with Books" to Be Discussed May 7.** Estelle Ellis, one of the authors of *At Home with Books: How Booklovers Live with and Care for Their Libraries* (Crown, 1995), will give an illustrated lecture in the "Books & Beyond" series on May 7 at 1 p.m. in Dining Room A on the sixth floor of the Library's Madison Building. *At Home with Books* is illustrated with more than 300 color photographs of private libraries and "book spaces" belonging to 40 "book lovers" — architects, academics, designers, artists, librarians, writers, historians, collectors and curators in the United States and abroad. Interviews with these readers provide many ideas about book collecting, storage and reading.

"The Center for the Book was pleased to offer advice and to be included," said Director John Y. Cole. "Our special contribution was to its



'resource directory,' which provides useful information about rare book dealers, book fairs, bookbinding, library furnishings and lighting and the great libraries of the world."

❑ **The Rowfant Club Visits LC.** More than 60 members of one of the leading book collecting clubs in the United States — the Rowfant Club of Cleveland — came to the Library on March 8. Their visit was part of the club's three-day study tour of Washington.

John Cole greeted club members in the Great Hall, where he discussed the Library and the architecture of the Jefferson Building before escorting the group to the Rare Book and Special Collections Division. There, Reference Specialist Clark Evans gave members a presentation about the division's treasures. That evening, Dr. Cole was the speaker at the Rowfant dinner at the Metropolitan Club, where he accepted a gift of two books about the club's history for LC's collections.

❑ **Book and Library Historians to Meet at 1996 SHARP Conference.** A followup meeting to the Sept. 12-13, 1995, conference of book and library historians at the Library of Congress (see LC *Information Bulletin*, Oct. 16) will be held on July 18 in Worcester, Mass., in conjunction with the fourth annual meeting of SHARP (the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing). The meeting will be an informal discussion and reporting session about the activities of national and regional book history centers and about the status of various book history and library history publishing projects.

The SHARP conference is being hosted by the American Antiquarian Society (AAS). For further information on the conference or on AAS and its Program in the History of the Book in American Culture, contact John B. Hench or Caroline Sloat, American Antiquarian Society, 185 Salisbury St., Worcester, MA 01609-1634, telephone (508) 752-5813, fax (508) 754-9069, e-mail jbh@mwa.org. For information on joining SHARP, write Linda Connors, Drew University Library, Madison, NJ 07940, lconnors @drew.drew.edu.

❑ **Report on Conference on Book Catalogues Published.** In support of its mission to encourage the study of books, reading and libraries, in 1995 the Center for the Book helped fund a conference organized by the Bibliographical Projects Committee of the Bibliographical Society of America (BSA). The Invitational Conference on Book Catalogues: Their Collecting, Preservation, Cataloguing and Use was held at the Grolier Club in New York City on Jan. 25. Reports and presentations from the conference were published in the December 1995 issue of *The Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America.*

Introducing this special issue, Guest Editor Roger E. Stoddard, curator of Rare Books, Harvard College Library, characterized the unique nature of these catalogs: They "are part of the literature of awareness. . . . Collectors can find things they never heard about and buy them; scholars can find things they never heard about and use them."

Subscriptions to *The Papers* are available through membership in the society. For information, contact BSA Executive Secretary Marjory Zaik, P.O. Box 397, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163-0397, tel. (voice/fax) (212) 647-9171.

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